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TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF RECORD- ING SECRETARY.

Mr. President, and Members of the Society:

During the year 1919, the Columbia Historical Society held eight meetings, from January to May inclusive, and October, November and December, with an average attendance of about seventy-five persons; the first five meetings were held in the Gold Room of The Shoreham Hotel as in former years, but during the Summer the society engaged the Assembly Hall of the Cosmos Club, a larger, better ventilated and less noisy location. There were nine meetings of the Board of Managers, for the transaction of routine business.

The Society lost, during the past year, eleven members by resignation, and ten by death, among the most prominent of the latter being Mr. William Henry Dennis, a member of the Board and former Treasurer, and Dr. James Dudley Morgan, a member practically, since the society was founded, and a former President.

The most notable and encouraging feature of the year's activities, was the large increase in membership,—143 new members being added to the rolls, the credit for this progress being due to the President, Mr. Allen C. Clark, and the showing being a credit to the legal profession which largely predominates in the list.

The programs for the year were more varied than usual, starting with a talk by the well known lecturer, Miss Janet Richards, on the "Founding of the Daughters of the American Revolution"; eight papers were read, including the biography of another of the Mayors of Washington, Joseph Gales, Junior, and a striking paper on Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth, the celebrated novelist of the last century, without intending to slight any of the other papers read. There were also two illustrated lectures, which proved most popular.

Unfortunately, owing to delays known only to publishers, the annual volume (No. 22) did not make its appearance

during the year 1919, although completed as far as the Committee on Publication was concerned, in October.

The accessions to the library included the usual exchanges with other historical societies and libraries. In spite of the increased income of the society from its enlarged membership, it is not yet in a position to take a more commodious room for the display of its books and papers, but the hope is entertained, for a still further increase in revenue so that our collection may be made available to members, in some degree of comfort.

Respectfully submitted,

MAUD BURR MORRIS,
Recording Secretary.

January 20, 1920.